the Commerce Ministry in consultation with the Jewellery Export Promotion Council; and

(c) by what time a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Government has taken a series of measures to improve the availability of gold for export production of jewellery taking into account the suggestions of the trade & industry. These include special arrangements by the Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) for supply of gold to specialised Gem and Jewellery Export Production Complexes, repeal of the Gold Control Act and availability of credit. Further input support is being extended whenever necessary in consultation with trade and industry.

Vacation of 'Stay' Order obtained by M/s Bombay Dyeing in CEGAT

1923. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1095 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 1989 and state:

(a) what action Government have taken to vacate the 'stay' order obtained by M/s. Bombay Dyeing in CEGAT;

(b) what is the outcome of the miscellaneous application filed by the Customs Department before the CEGAT for expeditious hearing of the above matter;

(c) whether it is a fact that whenever Government revenue is involved no 'stay' order is granted without obtaining a valid bank guarantee for the involved amount; and

(d) if so, whether any bank guarantee was obtained and/or insisted upon by the Department in the instant case indicating the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) and (b) Customs, Excise & Gold (Control) Appellate Tribunal (CEGAT) has finally disposed off the Miscellaneous application and the appeal and has remanded the matter back to Collector of Customs, Bombay for adjudication on some points.

(c) and (d) The authority granting stay generally specifies the conditions subject to which the stay is being granted. The stay may be subject to furnishing a Bank Guarantee/Cash security/bond etc. depending upon the facts of each case and as per the judgement of the authority granting the stay. In this cast the duty amount has been secured by a bank guarantee to the tune of Rs. 1.15 crores and balance amount is covered by a simple bond.

Trade with Australia

1924. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI JAGADISH JANI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he had discussed the issue relating to bilateral trade and economic matters with the Foreign Minister of Australia recently in New Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the fields in which two countries have agreed upon for stepping up the trade; and

(c) when the next meeting of the Indo-Australia Joint Commission is likely to be held and where it is to be held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.